

Remarks

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed December 17, 2004. At the time of the Office Action, claims 6, 7, 21, 29, 39, 43, 44, 48 and 49 were pending in this application and claims 7, 21, 29, 39, 43, 44, 48, and 49 were allowed. By way of this paper, claim 6 has been canceled, and claim 7 has been amended, without acquiescence or prejudice, to advance prosecution of this Application to allowance. Applicants do not admit that these amendments were necessary as a result of any cited art. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above application in view of the amendments and following remarks.

The Examiner has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pare* (U.S. Patent No. 6,230,148) in view of *Pollin* (U.S. Patent No. 5,727,249). The Examiner opines that the differences between the subject matter of claim 6 *Pare-Pollin* combination would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

Without acquiescence or prejudice, the Applicants have canceled claim 6. Applicants have also amended claim 7 to include the limitations of claim 6. Applicants hereby respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this ground of rejection. In light of the foregoing, allowance of all pending claims is kindly solicited.

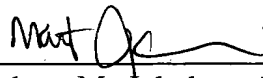
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that the Office Action of December 17, 2004 has been fully responded to. Consequently, in view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, including claims 7, 21, 29, 39, 43, 44, 48, and 49, which allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978 – a duplicate of the first page of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

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